## **EX-LIBRIS**

## ENCYCLOPAEDIA BIO-BIBLIOGRAPHICAL OF THE ART OF THE CONTEMPORARY EX-LIBRIS



ENCYCLOPAEDIA BIO-BIBLIOGRAPHICAL OF THE ART OF THE
CONTEMPORARY EX-LIBRIS XXX
Colecção concebida, organizada e dirigida por Artur Mário da Mota Miranda
Published in 2002 by Artur Mário da Mota Miranda
Printed and bound in Portugal by Tipografia Abreu, Sousa & Braga, L <sup>da</sup> . P — 4710 - 345 Braga
Portugal
Limited edition of 300 copies
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valski (1938), Konstantin K. Kozlovsky (1939), Alexander Miklovda (1940), Nikolay Stratilat (1942), Petro Prokopiv (1947), Vasyl Leonenko (1948), Nikolai Neimesh (1948), Yuri Protsan (1948), Boris Romanov (1949), Victor Romanenkov (1953) and the twin brothers Alexander and Sergey Kharuk (1960) were or are still making modest but good work on wood, lino or plastic. A surprising renewal started with father and son Arkady (1937) and Gennady (1969) Pugachevsky. In 1993, they broke very new ground by introducing multicoloured (up to sometimes 10 or 12 colours) work in plastic engraving. Different international bookplate-prizes confirm the importance and the excellent artistic quality of that work. The contagious beauty of their bookplates also influenced other artists such as Ruslan Agirba (1957), Vladimir Taran (1960), Alexander Savitch (1963), Yuri Galitsin (1964) and Ruslan Vigovsky (1967). Konstantin Antioukhin (1965) is also a great and fine talent, but he engraves on metal. His female nudes (sometimes with exiting bottoms) have a romantic and attractive charm, especially for collectors of erotic themes.

David Bekker (1940) and Gennady Vereschagin (1955) are internationally known for their attractive and colourful bookplates in mixed intaglio techniques. Bekker has a romantic nature; the contents of his bookplates are often based on themes from world literature and mythology or from art, music and historical events. He is also an excellent portraitist. Vereschagin is a graphical poet. His bookplates sometimes reflect not only the theme of the owner, but also the sensitive inner world of the artist. Bekker and Vereschagin are living in the seaport Odessa. Two other important bookplate artists also lived there, but emigrated: Sergey Udovichenko (1956) — now living in Israel — and Alexander Serebryany

(1966) — now living in the United States of America. Especially the work of Udovichenko has a sometimes labyrinthine and mysterious content, partly based on cabalistic mysteries.

The ex-libris of Konstantin Kalinovich (1959) make a much more sober impression. He is one of the best copper engravers of Ukraine and excels — among many other themes — in bookplates with landscapes. He usually prints his ex-libris on a strong but not too heavy paper, very easy to paste in books.

With bookplate-artists including Andriy Kens (1958), Sergey Ivanov (1960), Oleg Denisenko (1961), Oleg Dergachov (1961) and Sergey Hrapov (1965), the Ukrainian city of Lviv became as important as Bratislava, Prague and St. Petersburg. Denisenko, Hrapov and Kens are sometimes the creators of strange but attractive phantasmagoric dreams. The ex-libris of Dergachov and Ivanov are more soberminded. In the etchings of all these artists, a very fine illustration is usually combined with a text of an equally fine quality.



Leonid Schetnev (Russia)



Sergey Hrapov



Sergey Hrapov